

Patent Application No. 10/047,863

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated April 5, 2004. In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6, 8-10 and 13 were rejected under 35 USC §102, and claims 4, 5, 7, 11, 12 and 14 were indicated as allowable. By this Amendment claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 13 are amended, claims 2-4, 9 and 11 are cancelled, and claim 15 is added. Currently pending claims 1, 5-8, 10, 12-15 are believed allowable, with claims 1, 8 and 15 being independent claims.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 4 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended to further recite all the limitations of claims 2, 3 and 4. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 1 is believed allowable. Amendment to claim 1 is not made for reasons of patentability since claim 1 is merely a recitation of claim 4 making explicit what was previously incorporated by reference to claims 1, 2 and 3.

Claims 2-4 are canceled by this Amendment.

Claims 5 and 6 are amended to claim dependency on claim 1. Amendment to claims 5 and 6 are not made for reasons of patentability since claims 5 and 6 were previously dependent on a currently canceled claim.

Claim 11 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of its base claim and any intervening claims. By this Amendment, claim 8 is amended to further recite all the limitations of claims 9 and 11. Thus, for at least this reason, claim 8 is believed allowable. Amendment to claim 8 is not made for reasons of patentability since claim 8 is merely a recitation of claim 11 making explicit what was previously incorporated by reference to claims 8 and 9.

Claims 9 and 11 are canceled by this Amendment.

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Claims 10, 12 and 13 are amended to claim dependency on claim 8. Amendment to claims 10, 12 and 13 are not made for reasons of patentability since claims 10, 12 and 13 were previously dependent on a currently canceled claim.

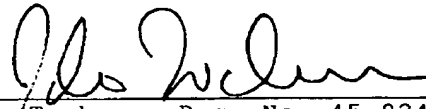
New claim 15 is introduced by this Amendment. Support for claim 15 can be found at least at claims 1, 2 and 4.

#### CONCLUSION

In view of the forgoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this case is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any points remain at issue that the Examiner feels could best be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to contact the attorney below.

No fee is believed due with this Amendment, however, should a fee be required please charge Deposit Account 50-0510. Should any extensions of time be required, please consider this a petition thereof and charge Deposit Account 50-0510 the required fee.

Respectfully submitted,



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